

**Central Valley Fish Facilities Review Team
Meeting Minutes
January 26, 2000
Resource Agency Conference Room, Sacramento**

Participants: Dan Odenweller*, John Andrew*, Bill O'Leary, Marianne Kirkland, Ryan Olah, Ron Ott, Jim Buell (on speakerphone), Steve Thomas, Rick Wantuck, Geir Aasen, and Bob Fujimura.
* Co-chairman

Screen Manufacturing Specification

The planned presentation was canceled due to Lauren Carly's absence.

Errors in Screen Velocity Measurements

Steve Thomas of NMFS discussed his memo to the team on the accuracy of approach velocity measurements using acoustic Doppler velocimeters (ADV). ADV sensor probes must be mounted in an alignment jig and positioned precisely near the surface of the screen face for accurate approach velocity measurements. Equations were presented that described the mathematical relationships between the measured and actual approach velocities. Based on these equations, a small misalignment can produce a large error even at slow sweeping velocities.

The error model helped resolve a discrepancy between the expected diversion rate based on screen velocity measurements and the observed rate from the distribution ditch behind an irrigation fish screen. Comments on the memo were requested by the next meeting. Recommendations included circulating the memo to the ADV vendor, AFSP team members, USBR Denver Hydraulic team, and UCD Hydraulic Lab team.

USBR O'Haver Screen

Discussion continued on the USBR screen installed on the Andreotti Farm. The screen was not installed at the specified elevation and the approach velocity measurements were not measured prior to installation. Approach velocity measurements in the Sacramento River were substituted.

Velocity testing indicated the majority of screen velocity measurements met the approach velocity criterion with a few measurements (4 out of 27) slightly over the criterion. NRCS and DFG have accepted the velocity test results for contract purposes for this installation. The contractor will reset the screen elevation. NRCS wants to this screen to be checked and inspected after it has been in place through the winter. Team members expressed concern over reports that this screen is being promoted in Oregon as being approved in California. Other installations of this screen have experienced connection problems and perhaps screen spacing variances. Members felt that meeting velocity testing for contract specifications on one screen did not constitute indorsement nor certification for the other USBR screen installations. NFMS and DFG representatives also expressed their option that there should be no new installations approved at this time.

Fall Fish Screen Workshop

Interest was polled for hosting another fall fish screen workshop. It was agreed that a workshop will not be held this fall. There was some interest in sponsoring a workshop in early 2001. There was considerable interest in holding a one-day workshop preceding the annual CalNeve chapter meeting of the American Fisheries Society. Darryl Hayes indicated that there was a lot of early interest in participating in the Fish Barrier Removal/Fish Passage session.

Boeger Farms Fish Screen

A proposed CALFED-funded fish screen on Boeger Farms would likely be affected by a proposed SB1086 setback levee project. The setback levee project would expose the pump/screen structure to direct river flows. Team members will notify the CALFED management team (Ron Ott) and the Fish Facilities Coordination Team (Dan Odenweller and John Andrew) as an example of the importance of project coordination. The Boeger Farms Fish Screen Feasibility Study document was passed out and comments requested from the team.

USBR/UCD/DWR Denver Meeting

USBR, UCD, and DWR staff will meet in Denver during February 1-2 to discuss study plans for the UCD Hydraulic Lab's Monster Flume. UCD Hydraulic staff has requested additional funds to complete the construction of the flume. The purpose of the meeting is to develop study plans for the flume that will support the research objectives of the Tracy Fish Test Facility and avoid conflicting uses. The study plans will be reviewed by TTAT team and, if approved, funds will be provided by DWR.

Tracy Fish Test Facility Recommendation

The status of the recommendation document for TFTF continued to be discussed. There is currently an additional option (Option 4) that will be presented in detail at the March TTAT meeting. This option has common components with the current Option 3. There was concern about the appropriateness of completing the value engineering for the TFTF before the conceptual design have been selected. Members will notify key USBR managers on this issue. Value engineering have been helpful in identifying unforeseen problems or issues concerning the design and construction of complex projects.

Other Issues

The team heard a summary of discussion items from the January Fish Facility Mitten Crab PWT meeting. The draft minutes of this meeting can be obtained by contacting Bob Fujimura (E-mail: bfujimur@delta.dfg.ca.gov). The lack of progress toward the voluntary screening the Sutter-Mutual diversion was noted and discussed. DWR staff reported that dive inspections found that 7 of 9 small fish screens on DWR's Sherman Island diversions had eroded cleaning nozzles or showed the signs of nozzle clogging. DWR plan to retrofit all nine screens with submersable pumps, retractable screen heads, and stainless steel nozzles. Members discussed Southern Energy's (PG&E) plans to address fish entrainment concerns as part of their NPDS permit renewal.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at the USBR office in Sacramento on February 23, 2000.